NORTH CAROLINA ROUTE 126 BRIDGE HAER NO.NC-32
(Bridge No.126-85-10)
North Carolina Route 126 Spanning Lake James Canal
Burke County
North Carolina

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Department of the Interior
Southeast Region
Atlanta,Georgia 30303

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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

North Carolina Route 126 Bridge
(Bridge No. 126-85-10)

HAER No. NC-32

Location	Spanning Lake James Canal Marion vicinity, Burke County, North Carolina UTM: 17.420030.3955650 Quad: Marion East
Date of Construction:	1919
Builder/Designer:	Virginia Bridge and Iron Company of Roanoke, Virginia
Present Owner:	North Carolina Department of Transportation Raleigh, North Carolina
Present Use:	Vehicular bridge
Significance:	Built by the Virginia Bridge and Iron Company for the Southern Power Company, the bridge is 300 feet long and is divided into sixteen panels. It is the only bridge of this length and configuration in the United States. Its members are heavy and proportioned to its length. The chord members are three times the size of a typical 120-foot Pratt Through Truss. At the time of construction, 1919, this bridge was somewhat of an engineering feat. The bridge had to be constructed of short members that could be trucked over the unimproved roads in the mountainous region and assembled to form each of the 43' x 300' trusses. This system depended on newly-developed technology of field riveting, which determined the strength of each joint and ultimately the entire structure.
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